

Phase II and Phase III Project Cover Sheet

All information contained within the individual site database and inventory sheets is solely the work of the researchers and authors noted below. The data provided has been culled from the original site reports noted below and in many cases has been lifted directly from them with little or no editing. The database and inventory sheets are meant to serve as a synopsis of the report findings and a finding aid and are not intended to replace or republish the research of the authors noted below.

REPORT INFORMATION:

2004 Gwiazda, G.P., R.W. Kirchen, and E. Comer
Phase I Archaeological Investigations for the Fairwood Development Phase II, Part One-B
Parcel, Bowie, Prince George's County, Maryland.
Submitted to the Rouse-Fairwood Development Limited Partnership

Library ID No: 95001191 Catalog/Shelving ID: PR 552

Research Firm/Institution:

Elizabeth A. Comer Archaeology
4303 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

Sites examined:

18PR707

Project Details:

Phase I ☒

Phase II

Phase III

Project Justification:

These archeological investigations were performed pursuant to the Prince George's County Planning Board's requirement that the subdivision review process must include the identification of any archeological sites that may be significant to the understanding of the history of human settlement in Prince George's County, including the possible existence of slave quarters and slave graves. The parcel to be affected by the construction of the Fairwood Development covers 114 acres of rolling rural farmland was once part of a larger plantation owned by former Maryland Governor Oden Bowie. This study involved extensive historical background research and archeological investigations at 3 locations within the 115-acre parcel that were recommended for further study based on a preliminary assessment of the property.

MAC Accession: 2005.033.001

Project Objectives:

- Determine the potential for antebellum African-American sites on the parcel, including the preservation of slave quarters and burials.
- Determine the effect of the extant sodding operation on the integrity of potential archeological deposits.
- Develop a course of action for the exploration of locations containing a high-potential for slave-related resources.

Research Potential:

See below for remaining research questions at 18PR707.

REPORT INFORMATION:

2005 Katz, G. and E.A. Comer
Phase II Archeological Investigation of Portions of Site 18PR707 for the Fairwood Development Phase II, Part One-B.
Submitted to the Rouse-Fairwood Development Limited Partnership

Library ID No: 95000961 Catalog/Shelving ID: PR 538

Research Firm/Institution:

Elizabeth A. Comer Archaeology
4303 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218

Sites examined:

18PR707

Project Details:

Phase I

Phase II ☒

Phase III

Project Justification:

These archeological investigations were performed pursuant to the Prince George's County Planning Board's requirement that the subdivision review process must include the identification of any archeological sites that may be significant to the understanding of the history of human settlement in Prince George's County, including the possible existence of slave quarters and slave graves. The parcel to be affected by the construction of the Fairwood Development covers 114 acres of rolling rural farmland was once part of a larger plantation owned by former Maryland Governor Oden Bowie. This study involved Phase II testing conducted on a portion of 18PR707, a historic (18-20th century) plantation site identified during a Phase I survey a year previous. The study investigated the remains of two slave/tenant cabins on Fairview Plantation, although only one cabin (Structure 2) was extensively excavated.

MAC Accession: 2006.002.001

Project Objectives:

- Determine the horizontal and vertical extents of the site.
- Determine the range of activities that occurred on the property and the associated time periods.
- Determine the significance of the deposits according to NRHP criteria.
- Assess the effects to the resource and the need for archaeological treatment based on those effects.

Research Potential:

Archeological investigations on Site 18PR707 were focused on one of the two cabins present at the site, known as "Structure 2" and also as the "Cook's Cabin". Researchers uncovered evidence supporting local tradition that the cabin once served as slave quarters and that the deposits were at least somewhat intact. Development plans changed to avoid impacts to "Structure 1", and only minimal work was conducted at this locale (also rumored to be a former slave cabin). The investigation found that only a portion of the structure's foundation apparently survived demolition. Artifacts recovered from the structure area are from the 19th and 20th centuries. The integrity of the structure's foundation is poor, and the integrity of the surrounding yard is unknown. But given that landscape features such as garden patches are still evident surrounding the foundation area, it is likely that the yard of the structure contains research potential relating to antebellum and post-bellum life on the plantation. Thus, 18PR707 continues to be a significant archeological resource.

REPORT INFORMATION:

2006 Comer, E.A. et. al.
Identification (Phase I) and Evaluation (Phase II) of Archaeological Resources within the Phase One Part Four Parcel, Fairwood Development, Prince George's County, Maryland.
Submitted to Rouse-Fairwood Development and the PG County Planning Board

Library ID No: 97003182 Catalog/Shelving ID: PR 443

Research Firm/Institution:

Elizabeth A. Comer Archaeology
4303 North Charles Street
Baltimore, MD 21218-1054

Sites examined:

18PR840 Others

Project Details:

Phase I	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Project Justification:	Project Objectives:
Phase II	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	These archeological investigations were performed pursuant to the Prince George's County Planning Board's requirement that the subdivision review process must include the identification of any archeological sites that may be significant to the understanding of the history of human settlement in Prince George's County, including the possible existence of slave quarters and slave graves.	-Conduct historical background research and field testing in the vicinity of the planned housing development.
Phase III			

MAC Accession: 2007.030.001

Research Potential:

Both the size and internal structure of Feature 1 at 18PR840 fit descriptions from excavations of 18th-19th century brick clamps (impermanent kilns used for the production of handmade bricks). Many decades of plowing have disturbed most of the features of this site, spreading brick fragments over a larger area and destroying much of the integrity of features. Dating of these features to a more precise range than 1700-1900 is not possible due to a lack of non-brick artifacts. Due to this combination of disturbance and imprecise dating, further excavation is unlikely to provide significant information. Given this situation, the housing developer was permitted to move forward with the subdivision and subsequent housing development and the brick clamp was likely destroyed during soil grading.